



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

FOREWORD

The title of this volume is descriptive of its contents to the extent to which the word "relief" receives the larger connotation demanded by the exigencies of the war. For decades social scientists have sought to emphasize the fact that a program of constructive relief is essential to national efficiency. The essence of real democracy is not in competition and individual struggle, but in coöperation and collective struggle.

One of the greatest contributions of the war to our social thinking is the realization, forced upon us by the severity of the struggle, that not merely armies and navies are involved, but that the whole nation is at war. This concept is phrased in "the mobilization of national resources" and includes man and woman power, material wealth, industry and the social mind. It follows as a natural consequence that public health, baby saving, child welfare, social hygiene, wholesome recreation and protection of workers are as essential to national vitality and strength as a capable army and navy, quick and liberal response to liberty loans, efficient industrial organization, or sound patriotism.

The feverish development of modern industrialism precluded any quick and clear perception of the need for conserving either the material or the vital resources of nations. *Laissez faire* philosophy was too deeply entrenched in the popular mind. Social programs were being developed, however, to meet specific needs and the public consciousness was slowly being awakened. Far-sighted statesmen were becoming active in the advocacy of social readjustment for the effective accomplishment of the pursuits of peaceful civilization.

Then came the war. In the fierceness of the early days of the conflict, when it seemed that the struggle would be short and decisive, it was to be expected that every energy should be utilized; that future needs should be sacrificed to present necessities. With the prolongation of the war, however, it began to be apparent that the problem was one of national endurance. This meant not only the organization, equipment and maintenance of vast military

forces, but the unification of the nation and the development of a public morale that could withstand the strain of war for an indefinite period. Increase of poverty, social unrest, increasing mortality, low birth rates, social disorganization, could now be seen to be as dangerous as army mutiny.

Those with clearer visions have perceived that the supreme national test will come in the reconstruction period after the war is over. Though victorious at arms, a nation may suffer such a loss of national vitality as to menace its future. It is even possible to lose the democratic spirit at home while fighting for democracy abroad.

In order to mobilize the entire nation, to unify its activities, to conserve its resources and to guarantee its success during the war and its prosperity after the war, it became necessary, not only to organize its military machinery on a gigantic scale, but to develop as well certain constructive programs, which for want of an adequate term, yet to be coined, to describe this enormous group of social activities we call "war relief work."

First of all this work involves the enlargement and intensification of the activities of all existing social agencies. The nation can ill afford to neglect its present wards or to allow their burden to increase for lack of care. Then new agencies must be created to meet specific or emergency needs incident to the war. The dependents of soldiers must be provided for on a scale never before contemplated or undertaken. The modern public conscience demands that this shall not merely be provided but that it shall be provided adequately.

The principle of accident insurance, now so thoroughly established in the field of industry, has been extended to cover war risks as an improvement upon previous pension systems. To the emergency work of the Red Cross now so tremendously enlarged has been added that immense field of activities known as civilian relief work. All the allied nations have realized as never before the necessity of placing fit armies in the field and to this end have organized on a magnificent scale departments of training camp activities. The service this branch of "relief" renders, especially in the United States, is incalculable. Religious activities have been increased mainly through the work of the nonsectarian organization of the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., but aided by the Catholic and Jewish organizations. A whole volume might be devoted to the

work of the Council of National Defense in the United States. Other social welfare organizations interested in child welfare, vocational education, housing of industrial workers, etc., have enlarged the scope of their activities. Methods of financing war relief work of such huge proportions had to be created.

The Academy has had in mind two principal objects in presenting this volume to its readers. First, to provide up-to-the-minute and accurate information in regard to the whole subject of war relief work at home and abroad. This has been done as thoroughly as the facilities of the Academy would permit. Second, to contribute to the development of that large and wholesome public social consciousness without which it would be difficult if not impossible to win the war and without which the benefits of democratic civilization could not be conserved to the future of mankind.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.